

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 7-10 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was allegedly not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Claims 1, 7-9, 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Admitted Prior Art figure 12 (AAPA figure 12) in view of Iwata (U.S. Patent No.: 5,800,728), Mukai et al. (U.S. Patent No.: 5,903,083), hereinafter referred to as Mukai, Harris et al. (U.S. Patent No.: 5,973,143), hereinafter referred to as Harris, and Akiyoshi et al. (JP 40-5211741, pubn-date 8/20/92). Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over AAPA, Mukai, Iwata, Harris, and Akiyoshi, as applied in the rejection against the base claim, and further in view of Nagayama et al. (U.S Patent No.: 5,779,453), hereinafter referred to as Nagayama.

As a preliminary matter, Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that the drawings submitted on March 20, 2003, are approved.

§ 112, first paragraph, Rejections - Claims 1 and 10

Claims 1 and 10 are rejected under § 112, first paragraph, for the reasons set forth on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action.

Applicant amends claims 1 and 10, as indicated herein, and believes that these amendments obviate the Examiner's rejections of these claims. If the amendments to claims 1 and 10 do not obviate the Examiner's rejections of these claims, Applicant respectfully requests

that the Examiner contact Applicant's representatives so that Applicant can better understand the basis for the Examiner's rejections.

Applicant submits that the claim amendments should be entered as the amendments are only made for clarification purposes, and do not require further search and/or consideration.

§ 112, second paragraph, Rejections - Claims 1-10¹

Claims 1-10 are rejected under § 112, second paragraph, for the reasons set forth on pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action.

Applicant amends claims 1 and 10, as indicated herein, and believes that these amendments obviate the Examiner's rejections of these claims.

§ 103(a) Rejections (AAPA / Iwata / Mukai / Harris / Akiyoshi) - Claims 1, 7-9, and 10

The Examiner rejects claims 1, 7-9, and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for the reasons set forth on pages 4-8 of the Office Action. Applicant traverses these rejections at least for the following reasons.

With respect to the rejections of claims 1, 7-9, and 10, Applicant submits that there would have been no motivation either in the references themselves or in the knowledge in the art, to combine the applied references to arrive at the present invention. For example, with respect to combining Harris with the other applied references, the Examiner alleges that it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the rotor by embodying the permanent magnets with corrosion-resistive holding members, as doing so would

¹ Applicant believes that only claims 1-3 and 7-10 are rejected under § 112, second paragraph, as claims 4-6 were previously canceled.

allegedly provide means for securely holding the permanent magnets in place and protecting the permanent magnets from corrosion. In response, Applicant submits that there would have been no motivation, teaching, or suggestion to combine Harris with Mukai, Umeda, and Iwata, either in the references themselves or the knowledge in the art. That is, Harris discloses that pockets 36 of a fan 24 contain the permanent magnets 38, and that when the fan 24 is assembled with rotor 10, a pocket 36 containing magnet 38 is pressed under a pole finger 22 of second pole piece 14 and above body 32 of first pole piece 12. *See col. 2, lines 40-52.* On the other hand, Mukai, for example, discloses that the magnets 38 are disposed on the rotor (not in pockets of a fan) and between the various claw poles (not under and above claw poles). Therefore, at least for these reasons, Applicant submits that one skilled in the art would not have combined Harris with the other applied references, to satisfy the limitations of Applicant's invention, as recited in claims 1, 7-9, and 10.

§ 103(a) Rejections (AAPA / Iwata / Mukai / Harris / Akiyoshi / Nagayama) - Claims 2 and 3

The Examiner rejects claims 2 and 3 under § 103(a) for the reasons set forth on pages 8 and 9 of the present Office Action.

Applicant submits that claims 2 and 3 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 1. Nagayama does not make up for the deficiencies of the other applied references.

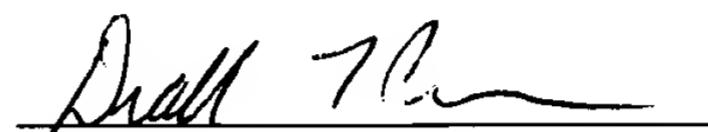
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
U.S. APPLICATION NO.: 09/839,209

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q63408

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Diallo T. Crenshaw
Registration No. 52,778

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE



23373

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: December 4, 2003